



## Town of Chesapeake City

### "Hidden Treasure of the Chesapeake"

#### Quarterly Newsletter January 2013

Town Council, the Mayor and the staff at Town Hall will be providing an update to the residents, property owners and business owners of Chesapeake City on a quarterly basis. As many folks in town are busy and unable to attend town meetings the newsletter will give you an overview on what the Town is working on and has achieved during the past 3 months. We do encourage everyone in our community to attend meetings when time permits, our monthly "voting" meeting is the second Monday of the month, and the "workshop" meeting is the fourth Monday of the month. The town website is also an excellent source of information, for those with Internet access the address is [www.chesapeakecity-md.gov](http://www.chesapeakecity-md.gov).

#### **Public Works and Water/Sewer Departments**

**Recycling-** Thank you for participating in the worthwhile Recycling Program that not only cleans up the town but helps pay for the waste removal needs of the town. A large trailer for recycling is parked under the North tower so all residents can drop off metal recycling any time they wish. The regular alternate Saturdays for the town truck continue at this time to drop items. In 2012 the town was top recycler with 52% of our waste recycled. By now you have noticed that with recycling your normal trashcan is nearly empty. To help curb costs, please consider bagging the garbage in the yellow and black can to speed pickup. The more we help our collection company the more we can expect help when the new contract comes around. The truly personal service from JunkBeeGone.com is evident. Yard waste is discontinued on winter months but Christmas trees will be picked up Mondays as they appear in alleys and trash can pick up areas.

**Artesian Water-** Work has started outside of town on Biddle St. I'm going to remind you again about any sensitivity to fluoride supplements or other medications that have fluoride in them, please check with your health adviser as to any modifications necessary to your dosage. Any further questions on Fluoride, please call Artesian at 410-245-7777.

**School W&S-** The bids for the project are in and within range of our expected costs. Any property owners between the south of town and the school should consider reserving a hookup before they are all committed.

**Water Meters-** The new meters should be delivered by mid January. Installation will start quickly after that. Again, RTS will have identification from the Town to show you before they enter your home, if necessary. Please make every effort to respond to calls from RTS or Town Hall for this purpose.

**Signature Signs-** The order was placed for the first of the new street "Signature" name signs for our approval. These will replace all the old weathered signs throughout town with some new "way finding" flags (signs, to direct visitors and others who are unfamiliar with the town.) We hope to expand this project to all signs in town using grant money.

**Snow Plowing-** Have a safe winter season and please help snowplows when possible by moving your vehicles so they can clean your parking areas. -Ron Francis, Council

#### **Public Relations, Little League, Chamber of Commerce and Parking**

**Solar Power at the Waste Water Treatment Facilities -** We will be getting a proposal from our consultant, Briggs Cunningham regarding the installation of Solar Panels at the North Waste Water Treatment Plant. This would not only provide power for the plant, but also generate offset income for other town owned electrical usages. This will be a great savings for our town.

**Little League -** Spring is just around the corner and we are all looking forward to the coming Little League season. Registration is January 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>; February 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 1pm. Hopeful for another great year for all of our divisions.-Harry Sampson

#### **Parks & Recreation, Docks, Public Relations**

We had many volunteers in early November to erect the Winterfest Lights. Things went off without a hitch. I want to thank all those that came out and help make the day a success. Three days were allotted to erect the displays but the wonderful volunteers of Chesapeake City managed to erect them all in one day. We worked long and hard and it would not have happened had we not had so many hardworking volunteers. Again, thank you all for your help. I would also like to give a special thanks to Chris Wells and Carla Miners for all they have done to make Winterfest a success. We are working on the revitalization program and things are going along. We have received the landscape plan and are reviewing it. Nothing will happen until spring and better weather. We still need volunteers to work with parks and recreation during the coming months. If you are interested please let either me or Chris Wells know. We will be scheduling a meeting for early February and I will post the date when it is selected. Hope you all have had a very happy holiday season.-Elaine Shepard

### Historic and Finance

Vision Statement: "The Chesapeake City Historic District Commission has as its principal objective to work closely with the owner(s) of an historic property to: encourage that properties be maintained; encourage rundown properties to be restored; encourage additions to be compatible with the existing structure and street-scape; and by doing so, have the Historic District recognized as a premier example of mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> Century architecture...."

Ed McMahon, senior chairman on sustainable development at the Urban Land Institute, states, "The image of a community is fundamentally important to its economic well-being. If you can't differentiate yourself, you have no competitive advantage." As a partner in the Town's Revitalization Plan, the Historic District Commission will continue to uphold the differentiation of Chesapeake City. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 443-553-4129.

### **Finance**

Residents will soon hear much discussion in the media about the State of Maryland's Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), which has as its stated goal the improvement of water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. The discussion will center on the politics and science of cleaning up the Bay. Cecil County may join a coalition of counties and municipalities throughout the state to refute the science behind WIP. If that occurs, the County will look to Chesapeake City to share in the cost of funding attorneys and scientists. While preparing the 2012/2013 budget, the Town foresaw this possibility and funded a line item to cover potential WIP-related expenses. This item will again be on the agenda as we prepare our 2013/2014 budget during the April timeframe. Please join the discussion by attending meetings and workshops of the Mayor and Council. – **Rich Taylor**

### Public Safety, Charter, Ethics, Tourism, Newsletter and Economic Development

The Tourism committee is working in conjunction with the many associations in town to plan and promote events in 2013. In addition to paid advertising, Chesapeake City's Winterfest of Lights received many write-ups in a number of publications. We are working on highlighting the town during Cecil Counties "Tourism Month" which is May in the same matter. We are also working on a "Freedom Walk" for 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend to enhance the fireworks display. This will be similar to Ghostwalk. All volunteers on committees as well as elected officials and town employees are required by State law to submit their annual ethics and disclosure form, if you have not done so already please remit to Doris at Town Hall and thank you for making a difference. Sandra Edwards and I meet with the State representative about establishing an Arts and Entertainment District in town. The process will take about one year but will provide incentives to Artists that create and sell their work in town, The State representative was very impressed with Chesapeake City and we already have a number of requirements in place! Sandra has also submitted the final applications to be designated as a Sustainable Community, although we had this designation in the past the requirements have changed, once approved this will provide the opportunity for additional grants. We are finalizing the plans with the DNR for a Kayak launch on 2<sup>nd</sup> street, the launch will allow direct access to Back Creek without having to paddle under the small bridge. If anyone has any public safety concerns, please contact me directly at my email address below. – **Bert Wells** [bertwells3@gmail.com](mailto:bertwells3@gmail.com).

### Mayor Dean Geracimos

This Holiday Season was especially exciting for the Town with the creation of Winterfest and I thank all the volunteers who helped us make this a success. Since I took office we have many new things happening in our Town. Artesian Water Company is hooking up our new water line, we are in the process of replacing all the meters, and we are very excited about a grant for the new C & D Canal Trail. We have a lot more going on as well. Please look for the Mayor's update newsletter in a few weeks. Hope the season was a good one for you and the New Year is wonderful for the residents of Chesapeake City.

### Upcoming Community Events

#### January

13<sup>th</sup> VFW All you can Eat Breakfast 8- 11am 8\$

19<sup>th</sup> VFW Daytripper Band 7-11 pm 5\$ covercharge

#### February

10<sup>th</sup> VFW All you can eat Breakfast 8-11am 8\$

16<sup>th</sup> VFW Chili Cook Off and Movie Blazing Saddles details 410.885.5217

#### March

10<sup>th</sup> VFW All you can Eat Breakfast 8\$

16<sup>th</sup> VFW Oyster Feast 2pm 25\$ per ticket Daytripper Band 5-9pm 5\$ covercharge

16<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day Parade 12:00 start at South Chesapeake City under the Bridge. Pub Crawl following the parade.